



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration**

901 Locust Street, Suite 462
Kansas City, MO 64106-2641

**NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION
and
PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER**

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 26, 2009

Mr. Wes Christensen
Senior Vice President NGL Operations
OneOK Partners North System, L.L.C.
100 West 5th Street
Tulsa, OK 74103

CPF 3-2009-5019

Dear Mr. Christensen:

On April 8-10, June 7-12, and July 20-23, 2009, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected your records and facilities in Conway, KS, Morris, IL, and Lemont, IL.

As a result of the inspection, it appears that you have committed probable violations of the Pipeline Safety Regulations, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations. The items inspected and the probable violation(s) are:

1. §195.403 Emergency response training.

(b) At intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, each operator shall:

(1) Review with personnel their performance in meeting the objectives of the emergency response training program set forth in paragraph (a) of this section;

In the Morris area, OneOK personnel exceeded the 15 month criteria for reviewing the Emergency Manual. Review of the emergency response training records identified that the review of the site specific emergency plan for Morris exceeded the 15 month criteria. The review dates noted were 1/31/2007 and 11/18/2008.

2. §195.404 Maps and records.

(a) Each operator shall maintain current maps and records of its pipeline systems that include at least the following information:

(1) Location and identification of the following pipeline facilities:

- (i) Breakout tanks;**
- (ii) Pump stations;**
- (iii) Scraper and sphere facilities;**
- (iv) Pipeline valves;**
- (v) Facilities to which §195.402(c) (9) applies;**
- (vi) Rights-of-way; and**
- (vii) Safety devices to which §195.428 applies.**

(2) All crossings of public roads, railroads, rivers, buried utilities, and foreign pipelines.

OneOK personnel did not map foreign line crossings that were installed over a year ago. As of the inspection date, the crossings were still not mapped. Also, in the Conway area, it was noted that a new bypass line put in at the Halstead station was not updated on the station drawings.

Review of OneOK's Inspection and Investigation (I&I) reports noted that there were several line crossings in all three units that were not updated on the Company's alignment sheet. Additionally, during the field inspection of the Halstead station, it was noted that a new bypass was put in. Review of the drawings for the station found that this section had not been updated on the drawings. The new bypass was installed over a year ago. Your personnel indicated that the acquisition of the North System assets by OneOK played a role in the backlog of updates.

3. §195.412 Inspection of rights-of-way and crossings under navigable waters.

(a) Each operator shall, at intervals not exceeding 3 weeks, but at least 26 times each calendar year, inspect the surface conditions on or adjacent to each pipeline right-of-way. Methods of inspection include walking, driving, flying or other appropriate means of traversing the right-of-way.

OneOK did not adequately patrol areas of their ROW due to high growth of trees and brush. Aerial patrol is what is utilized to meet this requirement, however, in these areas, no other form of patrol was done.

During the field inspection, it was noted that on Line 105, at approximately MP 554 or 555, there was approximately 300 to 400 feet of trees that covered the ROW. Additionally, on the 106W line, there were two areas where the ROW was not clear of trees and brush. Those areas were noted at Smith Rd. near Wayne Station and the second was at Batavia Rd. Although these areas are relatively short sections, they still need to be addressed when aerial patrol is the only method utilized for patrolling.

4. \$195.420 Valve maintenance.

(b) Each operator shall, at intervals not exceeding 7½ months, but at least twice each calendar year, inspect each mainline valve to determine that it is functioning properly.

OneOK personnel exceeded the allowable 7 ½ month inspection interval on several emergency valves in the Lemont area. On the 106 line in Lemont, there were nine (9) valves that exceeded the allowable 7 ½ month inspection cycle. The time frame noted was 8/9/07 for one inspection and 4/3/08 for the following inspection.

Also, in the Morris area, on Line 316, it was found that Valve 1 and 1A were not operated during the 4/22/08 inspection because the line was in operation. Valve 1A was not operated during the 10/2/08 inspection because the line was in operation. The technician did not schedule a time or go back at a later date to operate the valve(s) when the line was down.

Proposed Compliance Order

With respect to item three (3) pursuant to 49 United States Code § 60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration proposes to issue a Compliance Order to OneOK Partners North System LLC. Please refer to the *Proposed Compliance Order*, which is enclosed and made a part of this Notice.

Warning Items

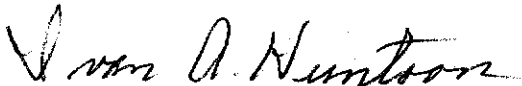
With respect to item(s) one (1), two (2) and four (4), we have reviewed the circumstances and supporting documents involved in this case and have decided not to conduct additional enforcement action or penalty assessment proceedings at this time. We advise you to promptly correct these item(s). Be advised that failure to do so may result in OneOK Partners North System LLC being subject to additional enforcement action.

Response to this Notice

Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*. Please refer to this document and note the response options. Be advised that all material you submit in response to this enforcement action is subject to being made publicly available. If you believe that any portion of your responsive material qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b), along with the complete original document you must provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for confidential treatment redacted and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b). If you do not respond within 30 days of receipt of this Notice, this constitutes a waiver of your right to contest the allegations in this Notice and authorizes the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety to find facts as alleged in this Notice without further notice to you and to issue a Final Order.

In your correspondence on this matter, please refer to **CPF 3-2009-5019** and for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,



Ivan A. Huntoon
Director, Central Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosures: *Proposed Compliance Order*
Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings

PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER

Pursuant to 49 United States Code § 60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) proposes to issue to OneOK Partners North System LLC a Compliance Order incorporating the following remedial requirements to ensure the compliance of OneOK Partners North System LLC with the pipeline safety regulations:

1. Pertaining to inspection of the surface conditions on or adjacent to the pipeline right-of-way, provide to Ivan A. Huntoon, Director, Central Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, 901 Locust Street, Room 462, Kansas City, MO 64106 a plan and schedule of action for clearing the right-of-way where aerial patrolling will be utilized.
2. The plan must identify sections of pipeline right-of-way throughout the system that are overgrown and will remain overgrown for a period of time while awaiting clearing. For these sections, OneOK must provide an alternate means to aerial patrolling in order to comply with inspection of the surface conditions on or adjacent to the pipeline right-of-way as required by §195.412.
3. Provide the plan and action schedule within 30 days from the date of receipt of the Final Order.
4. Implement the plan and schedule required by items 1 and 2, above, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the Final Order.
5. OneOK shall maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Compliance Order and submit the total to Ivan A. Huntoon, Director, Central Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, 901 Locust Street, Room 462, Kansas City, MO 64106. Costs shall be reported in two categories: 1) total cost associated with preparation/revision of plans, procedures, studies and analyses, and 2) total costs associated with replacements, additions and other changes to pipeline infrastructure.

Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings

The requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 190, Subpart B (§§ 190.201–190.237) govern response to Notices issued by a Regional Director, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

Be advised that all material submitted by a respondent in response to an enforcement action is subject to being made publicly available. If you believe that any portion of your responsive material qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b), along with the complete original document you must provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for confidential treatment redacted and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b).

I. Procedures for Responding to a NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION:

Within 30 days of receipt of a Notice of Probable Violation, the respondent shall respond to the Regional Director who issued the Notice in the following way:

a. When the Notice contains a proposed CIVIL PENALTY* --

1. If you are not contesting any violations alleged in the Notice, pay the proposed civil penalty and advise the Regional Director of the payment. This authorizes PHMSA to issue an order making findings of violation and upon confirmation that the payment has been received PHMSA will close the case with prejudice to the respondent. Payment terms are outlined below;
2. If you are not contesting any violations alleged in the Notice but wish to submit written explanations, information, or other materials you believe warrant mitigation of the civil penalty, you may submit such materials. This authorizes PHMSA to make findings and to issue a Final Order assessing a penalty amount up to the amount proposed in the Notice. Refer to 49 C.F.R. § 190.225 for assessment considerations, which include the respondent's ability to pay and the effect on the respondent's ability to stay in business, upon which civil penalties are based;
3. If you are contesting one or more of the items in the Notice but are not requesting an oral hearing, submit a written response to the allegations and/or seek elimination or mitigation of the proposed civil penalty; or
4. Request a hearing as described below to contest the allegations and/or proposed assessment of a civil penalty.

b. When the Notice contains a proposed COMPLIANCE ORDER* --

1. If you are not contesting the compliance order, notify the Regional Director that you intend to take the steps in the proposed compliance order;
2. If you are not contesting the compliance order but wish to submit written explanations, information, or other materials you believe warrant modification of the proposed compliance order in whole or in part, or you seek clarification of the terms of the proposed compliance order, you may submit such materials. This authorizes PHMSA to make findings and issue a compliance order;
3. If you are contesting the proposed compliance order but are not requesting an oral hearing, submit written explanations, information, or other materials in answer to the allegations in the Notice and stating your reasons for objecting to the proposed compliance order items in whole or in part; or
4. Request a hearing as described below to contest the allegations and/or proposed compliance order items.

c. When the Notice contains a WARNING ITEM --

No written response is required. The respondent is warned that if it does not take appropriate action to correct these items, enforcement action will be taken if a subsequent inspection reveals a violation.

* Failure of the respondent to respond to the Notice within 30 days of receipt constitutes a waiver of the right to contest the allegations in the Notice and authorizes the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety to find facts as alleged in the Notice without further notice to the respondent and to issue a Final Order.

II. Procedures for Responding to a NOTICE OF AMENDMENT*--

Within 30 days of receipt of a Notice of Amendment, the respondent shall respond to the Regional Director who issued the Notice in the following way:

- a. If you are not contesting the Notice, notify the Regional Director of your plans to address the inadequacies identified in the Notice;
- b. If you are not contesting the Notice but wish to submit written explanations, information, or other materials you believe warrant modification of the Notice of Amendment in whole or in part, or you seek clarification of the terms of the

Notice of Amendment, you may submit such materials. This authorizes PHMSA to make findings and issue an Order Directing Amendment;

- c. If you are contesting the Notice of Amendment but are not requesting an oral hearing, submit written explanations, information, or other materials in answer to the allegations in the Notice and stating your reasons for objecting to the Notice of Amendment items in whole or in part; or
- d. Request a hearing as described below to contest the allegations in the Notice.

* Failure of the respondent to respond to the Notice within 30 days of receipt constitutes a waiver of the right to contest the allegations in the Notice and authorizes the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety to find facts as alleged in the Notice without further notice to the respondent and to issue a Final Order.

III. **Procedure for Requesting a Hearing**

A request for a hearing must be in writing and accompanied by a statement of the issues that the respondent intends to raise at the hearing. The issues may relate to the allegations, new information, or to the proposed compliance order or proposed civil penalty amount. Refer to 49 C.F.R. § 190.225 for assessment considerations upon which civil penalties are based. A respondent's failure to specify an issue may result in waiver of the right to raise that issue at the hearing. The respondent's request must also indicate whether or not respondent will be represented by counsel at the hearing. Failure to request a hearing in writing within 30 days of receipt of a Notice waives the right to a hearing. In addition, if the amount of the proposed civil penalty or the proposed corrective action is less than \$10,000, the hearing will be held by telephone, unless the respondent submits a written request for an in-person hearing. Complete hearing procedures can be found at 49 C.F.R. § 190.211.

IV. **Extensions of Time**

An extension of time to prepare an appropriate response to a Notice may be granted, at the agency's discretion, following submittal of a written request to the Regional Director. The request must indicate the amount of time needed and the reasons for the extension. The request must be submitted within 30 days of receipt of the Notice.

V. **Freedom of Information Act**

Any material provided to PHMSA by the respondent, and materials prepared by PHMSA including the Notice and any order issued in this case, may be considered public information and subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). If you believe the information you are providing is security sensitive, privileged, confidential or may cause your company competitive disadvantages, please clearly identify the material and provide justification why the documents, or portions of a document, should not be released under FOIA. If we receive a request for your material, we will notify you if PHMSA, after reviewing the materials and your provided justification, determines that withholding the materials does not meet any exemption

provided under the FOIA. You may appeal the agency's decision to release material under the FOIA at that time. Your appeal will stay the release of those materials until a final decision is made.

VI. **Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act Information**

The Small Business and Agricultural Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and rate each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on the enforcement actions of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247) or go to http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman/dsp_fa.html.

VII. **Payment Instructions**

Civil Penalty Payments of Less Than \$10,000

Payment of a civil penalty of less than \$10,000 proposed or assessed, under Subpart B of Part 190 of the Pipeline Safety Regulations can be made by certified check, money order or wire transfer. Payment by certified check or money order (containing the CPF Number for this case) should be made payable to the "Department of Transportation" and should be sent to:

Federal Aviation Administration
Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center
Financial Operations Division (AMZ-341) P.O. Box 269039
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-4915

Wire transfer payments of less than \$10,000 may be made through the Federal Reserve Communications System (Fedwire) to the account of the U.S. Treasury. Detailed instructions are provided below. Questions concerning wire transfer should be directed to the Financial Operations Division at (405) 954-8893, or at the above address.

Civil Penalty Payments of \$10,000 or more

Payment of a civil penalty of \$10,000 or more proposed or assessed under Subpart B of Part 190 of the Pipeline Safety Regulations must be made wire transfer (49 C.F.R. § 89.21 (b)(3)), through the Federal Reserve Communications System (Fedwire) to the account of the U.S. Treasury. Detailed instructions are provided below. Questions concerning wire transfers should be directed to the Financial Operations Division at (405) 954-8893, or at the above address.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

(1) <u>RECEIVER ABA NO.</u> 021030004	(2) <u>TYPE/SUB-TYPE</u> (Provided by sending bank)
(3) <u>SENDING BANK ABA NO.</u> (Provided by sending bank)	(4) <u>SENDING BANK REF NO.</u> (Provided by sending bank)
(5) <u>AMOUNT</u>	(6) <u>SENDING BANK NAME</u> (Provided by sending bank)
(7) <u>RECEIVER NAME</u> TREAS NYC	(8) <u>PRODUCT CODE</u> (Normally CTR, or as provided by sending bank)
(9) <u>BENEFICIAL (BNF) = AGENCY LOCATION CODE</u> BNF = /ALC-69-14-0001	(10) <u>REASONS FOR PAYMENT</u> Example: PHMSA - CPF # / Ticket Number/Pipeline Assessment number

INSTRUCTIONS: You, as sender of the wire transfer, must provide the sending bank with the information for blocks (1), (5), (7), (9), and (10). The information provided in Blocks (1), (7), and (9) are constant and remain the same for all wire transfers to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation.

Block #1 - RECEIVER ABA NO. - "021030004". Ensure the sending bank enters this 9-digit identification number; it represents the routing symbol for the U.S. Treasury at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

Block #5 - AMOUNT - You as the sender provide the amount of the transfer. Please be sure the transfer amount is punctuated with commas and a decimal point. **EXAMPLE: \$10,000.00**

Block #7 - RECEIVER NAME - "TREAS NYC". Ensure the sending bank enters this abbreviation. It must be used for all wire transfers to the Treasury Department.

Block #9 - BENEFICIAL - AGENCY LOCATION CODE - "BNF=/ALC-69-14-0001". Ensure the sending bank enters this information. This is the Agency Location Code for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation.

Block #10 - REASON FOR PAYMENT - "AC-payment for PHMSA Case # / To ensure your wire transfer is credited properly, enter the case number/ticket number or Pipeline Assessment number, and country."

NOTE: A wire transfer must comply with the format and instructions or the Department cannot accept the wire transfer. You as the sender can assist this process by notifying the Financial Operations Division (405) 954-8893 at the time you send the wire transfer.

February 2009